

Moran Announces Disaster Declaration Granted for Kansas

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Congressman Jerry Moran announced today that a major disaster declaration for the State of Kansas has been issued to help communities recover from the severe winter storm and near record snow that occurred March 26-29, 2009. Moran, and Members of the Kansas delegation, last month supported a request for a disaster declaration that was sent to President Obama as a result of the March 2009 winter storms that hit southwest, northwest and south-central Kansas. Governor Mark Parkinson requested federal Public Assistance for 14 counties, snow removal assistance for 19 counties and Hazard Mitigation for the entire state.

"Kansas communities affected by the March storms needed help with the costs of cleaning up their communities and recovering," Moran said. "I am glad that the request was approved so that these affected communities can now begin to quickly recover."

Preliminary assessments estimated damage from the storms was approximately \$18.6 million. Immediately following the storms, a state disaster emergency was declared for the affected counties. Public Assistance refers to money that is used to restore public infrastructure, such as roads, bridges and utilities, and for associated recovery costs, such as debris removal from public roads. The Hazard Mitigation Program funds projects that are designed to eliminate or reduce the impact of disasters to a community, such as flood control measures.

Public Assistance was granted for all requesting counties, including: Butler, Chase, Chautauqua, Coffey, Cowley, Dickinson, Elk, Grant, Greenwood, Harvey, Lyon, Marion, Sumner and Woodson counties. Assistance for snow removal under the Public Assistance program was granted for all requesting counties including: Barber, Barton, Clark, Comanche, Edwards, Grant, Haskell, Kearney, Kingman, Kiowa, McPherson, Meade, Pratt, Reno, Rice, Seward, Stafford, Stanton and Stevens counties. Funding for the Hazard Mitigation Program was requested and granted statewide.

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